



CALFED
BAY-DELTA
PROGRAM

CALIFORNIA'S WATER FUTURE:

A FRAMEWORK FOR ACTION



JUNE 9, 2000

"Rivers Run Through It"

Facts About the Sacramento-San Joaquin Bay-Delta



Agricultural Value Average annual gross value of Delta production is \$500 million.

Area of the Watershed The system drains more than 61,000 square miles, or 37% of California.

Area of the Delta The legal Delta includes 738,000 acres in five counties.

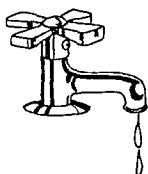
Crops The most commonly-grown Delta crops are pears, wheat, alfalfa, corn, and tomatoes.



Delta Inflow Historic inflow ranges from 6 to 69 million acre-feet per year; the average is 24 million acre-feet.

Diversions Over 7,000 diverters draw water from the system, including 1,800 in the Delta itself.

Delta Exports The SWP and CVP draw an average of 5.9 million acre-feet (3.6 million acre-feet for agriculture and 2.3 million acre-feet for urban uses) from the Delta each year.



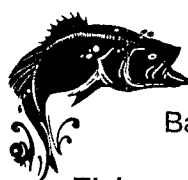
Drinking Water All or part of the drinking water for 22 million people (about two-thirds of all Californians) flows through the Delta.

In-Delta Water Use Net in-Delta water use averages about 1 million acre-feet annually.

Farmland Over 520,000 acres are farmed in the Delta.

Flora Over 400 plant species can be found in the Delta, not including agricultural crops.

Fauna The Delta harbors about 225 birds, 52 mammals, and 22 reptile and amphibian species.



Fish Species There are 54 fish species in the Delta, and a total of 130 in the Delta and Bay.

Fishery (Commercial Salmon) About 80% of the commercial salmon fisheries in California depend on the Delta.

Islands Rivers and sloughs surround 57 leveed islands.

Levees and Channels Over 700 miles of waterways are protected by 1,100 miles of levees.

Marshes There are 8,000 acres of tidal marsh in the Delta.



Size Comparison The Delta is comparable in size to the eastern seaboard of the United States.

Subsidence Some Delta lands are more than 20 feet below sea level.



Recreation Recreational use of the Delta is about 12 million user days per year.

Rivers California's two largest rivers, the Sacramento and the San Joaquin, mingle with smaller rivers to form the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta. The Sacramento flows south while the San Joaquin flows north.

Tidal Influences Each 24.8 hours, the tides cause water to move into and out of the Delta twice. The tides cause a 5- to 8-mile, back and forth movement of water in the western part of the Delta.



Developed by the CALFED Bay-Delta Program and the Bureau of Reclamation, Mid-Pacific Region, Public Affairs Office, Sacramento, CA.